Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A method for separating components of a sample, comprising:

obtaining a first separation of the sample components, wherein the first separation can be performed in the absence of an applied electric field;

using an electric field to obtain a second separation of the sample components within a plurality of substantially isolated channels;

obtaining an intensity-time data record from each of the isolated channels, each of the intensity-time data records comprising a first peak and a second peak; and

normalizing a migration time of at least one of the first peaks with respect to an average migration time of a plurality of the second peaks to correct for migration time differences between the isolated channels.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the second peaks correspond to the presence of a reference sample component added to the other sample components before the second separation of the sample components.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the second peaks have a different fluorescence spectrum from other sample components and the different fluorescence spectrum is detected using a two-dimensional detector.

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein normalizing a migration time comprises determining a ratio of the migration time of the first peak and the average migration time of the second peaks.

5. (Canceled).

6. (Currently amended) A method for separating components of a sample, comprising:

obtaining a first separation of the sample components, wherein the first separation can be performed in the absence of an applied electric field;

using an electric field to obtain a second separation of the sample components within a plurality of substantially isolated channels;

obtaining an intensity-time data record from each of the isolated channels ~~volumes~~, each of the intensity-time data records comprising a first peak and a second peak; and

normalizing an intensity of at least one of the first peaks with respect to an average intensity of a plurality of the second peaks to correct for intensity differences between the isolated channels.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the second peaks correspond to the presence of a reference sample component added to the other sample components before the second separation of the sample components.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the second peaks have a different fluorescence spectrum from other sample components and the different fluorescence spectrum is detected using a two-dimensional detector.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein normalizing an intensity comprises determining a ratio of the intensity of the first peak and the average intensities of the second peaks.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the peak intensity is a peak area.

12. (Currently amended) A system for separating components of a sample, comprising:

a first separation device ~~component~~ for obtaining a first separation of the sample components, wherein the first separation can be performed in the absence of an applied electric field;

a second separation device ~~component~~ for electrophoretically separating ~~each of~~ the sample components separated by the first separation device, the second separation device ~~component~~ comprising a plurality of substantially isolated separation channels; ~~and~~

a detection system to detect sample components within the substantially isolated separation channels and output detector signals indicative of the presence of the detected sample components; and

a processor configured to receive the detector signals, determine a respective migration time of the detected sample components and normalize a migration time of a first sample component within at least one of the separation channels with respect to an average migration time of each of a plurality of respective ~~second~~ reference sample components, the respective reference sample components having been separated along different ones of the substantially isolated separation channels ~~of the same separation channel~~ to adjust for migration time differences between the isolated channels.

13. (Previously presented) The system of claim 12, wherein the presence of the second sample components are indicated by peaks, each peak having a fluorescence spectrum different from other sample components and the detector comprises a two dimensional detector configured to detect the different fluorescence spectra.

14. (Currently amended) The system of claim 12, further comprising an autosampler to collect fractions of eluant from the first separation device ~~component~~.

15. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein the processor is further configured to increase a rate of fraction collection at a predetermined time.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the time for increasing the rate of fraction follows detection of a peak having a peak width that exceeds a threshold.

17. (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the isolated separation channels comprises a substrate defining a plurality of channels therein.

18. (Currently amended) A system for separating components of a sample, comprising:

a first separation device ~~component~~ for obtaining a first separation of the sample components, wherein the first separation can be performed in the absence of an applied electric field;

an electrophoresis device ~~component~~ for obtaining a second separation of the sample components within a plurality of substantially isolated channels;

a detector configured to obtaining an intensity-time data record from each of the isolated channels, each of the intensity-time data records containing a first peak and a second peak; and

a processor configured to normalize an intensity of a at least one of the first peaks with respect to an average intensity of a plurality of the second peaks to correct for intensity differences between the isolated channels.

19. (Previously presented) A method for separating components of a sample, comprising:

obtaining a first separation of the sample components, wherein the sample components are at least partially resolved on the basis of an isoelectric point of each component;

using an electric field to obtain a second separation of the sample components within a plurality of substantially isolated channels;

obtaining an intensity-time data record from each of the isolated channels, each of the intensity-time data records comprising a first peak and a second peak; and

normalizing a migration time of at least one of the first peaks with respect to an average migration time of a plurality of the second peaks to correct for migration time differences between the isolated channels.

20. (Previously presented) A method for separating components of a sample, comprising:

obtaining a first separation of the sample components into a first plurality of sample volumes in the absence of an applied electric field;

obtaining an electrophoretic separation of sample components present in each of the first plurality of sample volumes, wherein sample components present in different sample volumes are separated simultaneously along a respective one of a plurality of substantially isolated separation channels;

obtaining an intensity-time data record from each of the isolated channels, each of the intensity-time data records comprising a first peak and a second peak; and

normalizing a migration time of at least one of the first peaks with respect to an average migration time of a plurality of the second peaks to correct for migration time differences between the isolated channels.

21. (Currently amended) A method for separating components of a sample, comprising:

obtaining a first separation of the sample components into a first plurality of sample volumes ~~components~~ in the absence of an applied electric field, at least some of the first plurality of sample volumes comprising at least partially separated sample components;

obtaining an electrophoretic separation of the at least partially separated sample components ~~each~~ of the first plurality of sample volumes ~~components~~ to thereby form a plurality of substantially isolated volumes from each of said first plurality of sample volumes ~~components~~, the electrophoretic separation of respective first sample volumes ~~components~~ being simultaneous;

normalizing a migration time of at least one of the substantially isolated volumes with respect to an average migration time of a plurality of other of the ~~second,~~ substantially isolated volumes to correct for migration time differences between the isolated volumes.

22. (Currently amended) The method of claim 21, wherein the migration time of the other of the ~~second~~ substantially isolated volumes correspond to a migration time of peaks indicative of the presence of a reference sample component added to the first plurality of ~~other~~ sample volumes ~~components~~.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the reference sample component has a different fluorescence spectrum from other sample components and the different fluorescence spectrum is detected using a two-dimensional detector.

24. (Currently amended) The method of claim 23, wherein normalizing a migration time comprises determining a ratio of the migration time of the first substantially isolated volume and the average migration time of the peaks of the reference sample component ~~peak~~.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently amended) The method of claim 21, wherein a plurality of reference samples are added to each of the first plurality of sample volumes ~~fraction~~ and normalizing a migration time comprises fitting a migration time of each reference sample to a polynomial function.

27. (Currently amended) A method for separating components of a sample, comprising:

obtaining a first separation of the sample components into a first plurality of sample volumes ~~components~~ in the absence of an applied electric field, at least some of the first plurality of sample volumes comprising at least partially separated sample components;

obtaining an electrophoretic separation of ~~each of~~ the first plurality of sample volumes ~~components~~ to thereby form a plurality of substantially isolated volumes from each of said plurality of sample volumes ~~components~~, the electrophoretic separation of respective first sample volumes ~~components~~ being simultaneous; and

normalizing an intensity of at least one of the substantially isolated volumes with respect to an average intensity of other of the ~~a plurality of second,~~ substantially isolated volumes to correct for intensity differences between the isolated volumes.

28. (Currently amended) A system for separating components of a sample, comprising:

a first separation device ~~component~~ for obtaining a first separation of the sample components into a first plurality of sample volumes, wherein the first separation can be

performed in the absence of an applied electric field, at least some of the first plurality of sample volumes comprising at least partially separated sample components;

a second separation device ~~component~~ for electrophoretically separating each of the sample components, the second separation component comprising a plurality of substantially isolated separation channels;

an autosampler to collect the first plurality of sample volumes ~~fractions of eluant~~ from the first separation device ~~component~~; and

a processor configured to normalize a migration time of a first sample component within at least one of the separation channels with respect to a migration time of at least one reference ~~a second sample~~ component, to adjust for migration time differences between the isolated channels.

Claims 29-33 are canceled.

34. (New) A separations method, comprising:

chromatographically separating a sample into a plurality of fractions, wherein the step of chromatographically separating can be performed in the absence of an electric field applied to the sample;

electrophoretically separating each fraction along a respective, capillary in the presence of a reference standard;

obtaining an intensity-time data record from each of the capillaries, each of the intensity-time data records comprising a first peak and a reference standard peak, the reference standard peak indicative of the presence of the reference standard of the separation lane; and

correcting a migration time of the first peak of the intensity-time data record from at least a first one of the capillaries for migration time variations between the capillaries based upon a migration time of the reference standard peak of the intensity-time data record from at least one of the other capillaries.

35. (New) The separations method of claim 34, wherein correcting comprises normalizing the migration time of the first peak of the intensity-time data record from at least the first one of the capillaries with respect to the migration time of the reference standard peak of the intensity-time data record from the at least one of the other capillaries.

36. (New) The separations method of claim 34, comprising automatically collecting each fraction from the chromatographic separation.

37. (New) The separations method of claim 34, comprising combining each fraction with an identical reference standard.